

March 3, 1947.

Dr. Maclyn McCarty,  
Rockefeller Institute Hospital,  
New York, N.Y.

Dear Dr. McCarty:

You may be interested to learn of the results of our experiments with the preparation of desoxy-ribonuclease that you were so kind to provide. The incorporation into the medium in which the cells were mixed of as much as .05 mg/ml of the filter-sterilized enzyme preparation has had no perceptible effect on the frequency of occurrence of prototroph recombinants. We are, of course, working completely in the dark as to the activity of the enzyme under these conditions; perhaps it might be possible to arrange sometime for an assay of the enzyme on pneumococcus TP after exposure to E. coli? In the meantime we are endeavouring to check on this point by the activity of the enzyme on poly-DRNA.

I have been asked whether the enzyme would be active on DRNucleo-protein. Can you say anything about this?

Finally, I would appreciate very greatly reprints of your publications on the enzyme and on the transforming system; I have now only the initial report of your group (JEM Feb '44).

With the best of regards,

Yours sincerely,

Joshua Lederberg